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www.health.ri.gov

Division of Infectious Disease and Epidemiology - Health Advisory

Date: April 15, 2011
To: All Healthcare Providers
Re: Confirmed Importation of Measles in Rhode Island

Background

- On April 13, the Rhode Island Department of Health (HEALTH) received a report from an astute primary care physician of suspect measles in a foreign national who arrived via JFK in New York and traveled to Newport County in Rhode Island.
- The diagnosis was rapidly confirmed by serologic testing.
- Because of the early detection of the case, control measures were put in place immediately. The patient was isolated on a voluntary basis and post-exposure prophylaxis with MMR within 72 hours of exposure for exposed contacts is being implemented by epidemiology staff.
- A press release will be distributed this afternoon.

Information About Measles

For general information on measles and measles vaccination recommendations see <http://www.cdc.gov/measles/>.

For a recent account of measles importations see http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6013a1.htm?s_cid=mm6013a1_w

For information on vaccinations recommended for foreign travel <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/content/vaccinations.aspx>

Provider Recommendations

- Maintain a high index of suspicion in cases of febrile rash illness in travelers to and from endemic areas of the world, regardless of age.
- Report cases of febrile rash illness immediately to HEALTH's Division of Infectious Disease and Epidemiology at 401-222-2577 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and after-hours call 401- 272-5952.

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